

17 Sept 70

to Weisberg (cc Roffman)

Dear Harold:

A few things have kept me from writing, not the least significant of which is that I have not really had an awful lot to say-- nor anything of great importance. Also I've been busy, previously finishing up my Ph.D. and now preparing for the beginning of classes. Much of it has to do simply with being done with the PhD and the sort of deflation of spirit that followed the frantic last few weeks of it. I had had it up to here, and just wanted to be off things that tangled my mind. Sorry for delays; you didn't miss much.

The address of the publishers of Physics Today is:
American Institute of Physics
335 East 45th St.
N.Y., N.Y. 10017

We have the mag somewhere on campus-- the physics library, I think. I'll take a look at recent issues and see if I can find what interests you.

Hoch/Alvarez: I have written to Hoch for the study you refer to. I do not know anything about it. In your letter of 2 Sept to Schoener you refer to ~~NAME~~ "Don", who I suppose means Don Olson. Last year, at Gary's request, Olson sent me a piece dealing with the timing of the first shot. I don't think that is the piece you refer to, but if it is, I know it. I sent comments to Olson after the thing was written. It contained mostly stuff that I had worked out for myself previously, and had ~~be~~ used in lectures, but Don wrote it without knowledge of me and I do not consider that any of it depends on what I thought. As with Olson's piece, my own thinking was heavily influenced by others. Olson's piece has some disagreeable faults, but basically is good and proves the first shot before Z 210. I think, though, that he missed the significance of that knowledge, what it implies.

When (if?) I get material from Hoch, I'll scrutinize and comment as you indicate.

Mayhew: I do not know the details of your dealings with him. His letters to me are no more than I expect or need: abrupt but adequate.

I have just about finished preparing a set of slides for him. I am waiting for the last batch from the processor. He has not indicated that he wants any more than these, and I'll not inquire further. If he wants a bigger collection, with things that I do not now have, it will cost him somewhat more than he has paid for what I have.

Z frames: I would like to borrow these for a while; long enough to make slides, if it seems ~~worth~~ worth it. No rush. Send them any time. I'll make slides for you, and others if you wish.

Bob Brown: I'll continue sending anything of his that I find, even though you are getting stuff from him. It's no great bother for me.

CIA-Vietnam: If it is not included with this, I'll soon send you a True article concerning CIA's ~~PHOENIX~~ Operation Phoenix in Vietnam.

JFK/Vietnam: I notice LIFE's recent article by Kenny O'Donnel (spelling?) confirms a memo Gary wrote a year or so ago. Gary interviewed David Schoenbrun who said he learned from Gen Gavin that JFK had issued the pullout order shortly before he was killed in Dallas. I had no reason to doubt that, but having confirmation from O'D is good. I recall that one (Newsweek?) columnist poo-pooed the notion in comments re O'D's article-- "improbable", "nonsensical", or something like that.

Your 13 Sept with advice to Howard is gently masterful. A pleasure to read, and a benefit.

Garrison book: I know nothing of it, but want it when it's ready. What's the title? "How to make crow taste like pheasant under glass"? If only he would think less of the good that he can do, and more of the harm that he has done.

I visited Howard at his home for a day when I was in his area. I did not have a chance to get down to Frederick, since I traveled to N.J. with my family and had to rejoin them. I shall not be free again for some time, and must therefore be satisfied with letters.

Shirt front: at Howard's I saw a small but clear photo. I am more than ever convinced that no bullet passed through there. I would like a copy of the picture so that I can examine it more closely.

Rifle clip: Harold showed me a few faded prints showing Lt. Day with the rifle in the TSBD shortly after it was found. The clip is not in the rifle as Day is handling. I'm sure these photos were taken after the cartridge had been ejected.

For various reasons which I'll explain later, I would like to see all pictures that show the rifle between the time that it was found and the time that it left the building. With the right pictures, it might be possible to prove-- or perhaps at least strongly to indicate-- that the clip was not in the rifle when it was found.

I can't be sure of anything right now, so I don't want to guess what we would find. But I want to see as many pictures as I can. If you have any, please send them to me for a while.

Echoff re 399 pix: His letter to me is enclosed.

Neck fragments: Howard evidently indicated to you that I was toying with the idea of sending a phoney letter to the Panel doc(s) re the fragments. It is still just a notion, and not one that greatly appeals to me. If I go ahead and do something like that, I'll have you read the thing before I send it.

Computers and Automation: I have not seen anything they printed after Sprague's article. Sprague said there was something-- or would be. I'll try to get hold of it and see.

Enough for now. I'll enclose, or will soon send, carbon of a letter which I shall soon write to Howard.

Good luck with suits and publication.

Still,

Dick